



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: A8973

Guyton P. SWINDELL, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/607,646

Group Art Unit: 3729

Confirmation No.: 2684

Examiner: Thiem D. PHAN

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TAUT SHEATH SPLICING OF ALL-DIELECTRIC, SELF-SUPPORTING FIBER OPTIC CABLE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 9, 2005, in which the Examiner has required a restriction, Applicant responds by electing Group I, *i.e.*, claims 6-9, drawn to a method of splicing a fiber optic cable. This election is made without prejudice to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims.

Prompt and favorable action on the elected claims is now respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 27, 2005